United Nations A/62/328

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 September 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Item 130 of the provisional agenda*
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

The emergence of a virulent strain of avian influenza known as A(H5N1) has put the world on alert for a new human influenza pandemic. On 25 September 2005, the United Nations responded with a coordinated effort to meet the needs of Member States by establishing a United Nations System Influenza Coordinator, who was tasked with developing and implementing a comprehensive unified strategy for the United Nations system globally on pandemic influenza prevention, preparedness and response, and with improving efforts to control avian influenza. A pandemic would constitute a different type of crisis than those covered by crisis management plans in place within the United Nations system given its slow onset, long duration and potential for affecting a significant number of staff and their families. Thus, the United Nations system gave renewed attention to its own organizational capacity to sustain operations and protect staff in the event of a major and protracted pandemic influenza crisis by ensuring that viable business continuity and staff protection plans are in place.

* A/62/150.

** The present report is submitted at the present time due to the need for extensive consultations with offices.

07-50166 (E) 081007

At United Nations headquarters locations and the regional commissions, avian and human influenza coordinators or focal points were appointed to ensure that all duty stations completed pandemic crisis preparedness plans. The preparedness activities identified were validated through an external review and can be grouped into three broad categories: (a) activities to maintain the continuity of critical United Nations functions and operations; (b) medical intervention and prevention; and (c) preparatory activities (capacity-building and training). Additional resources estimated at $7,868,600 for the biennium 2008-2009 are requested for the above-mentioned activities. In the event of a pandemic, further resources, currently estimated at $9,976,200, while not being requested at this time, are also presented in the report.

I. Background

1. The emergence of a virulent strain of avian influenza known as A(H5N1) has put the world on alert for a new human influenza pandemic. The history of influenza pandemic cycles suggests that a human influenza pandemic is overdue. The emergence of the A(H5N1) virus — a new strain causing highly pathogenic avian influenza in an increasing number of countries — has the potential to cause such a pandemic. On 25 September 2005, the United Nations responded with a coordinated effort to meet the needs of Member States by establishing a United Nations System Influenza Coordinator, who was tasked with developing and implementing a comprehensive unified strategy for the United Nations system globally on pandemic influenza prevention, preparedness and response and with improving efforts, at both the international and national levels, to control avian influenza.

2. On 28 September 2005, the Deputy Secretary-General convened the first meeting of the inter-agency steering committee on avian and human influenza. The committee meets approximately every two months and provides guidance for a coordinated United Nations response globally, including guidance on contingency planning to ensure the health and safety of United Nations personnel, a critical element for business continuity.

3. The United Nations system has also given renewed attention to its own organizational capacity to sustain operations and protect its personnel in the event of a major and protracted avian influenza pandemic by ensuring that agencies have in place viable business continuity and personnel protection plans. In this context, the Secretary-General, on 15 March 2006, issued a directive applicable to the entire United Nations system requesting all offices and agencies to appoint an avian and human influenza coordinator at all duty stations. The coordinators were to work with management teams and existing crisis management and preparedness mechanisms to ensure that pandemic plans were prepared and that preparedness was monitored. The Pandemic Planning and Preparedness Guidelines for the United Nations System (15 March 2006) and the accompanying United Nations Medical Services Staff Contingency Plan Guidelines for an Influenza Pandemic (1 March 2006) provide guidance on the types of activities each office should undertake and on the amounts of supplies and equipment that should be procured in order to prepare for a pandemic.

4. A pandemic would be a crisis with a slow onset and long (approximately 18-month) duration. It is estimated that approximately 30 per cent of United Nations personnel and their families would fall ill at some point during a pandemic. Absenteeism among United Nations personnel — whether for illness, fear of infection or to care for sick family members or for children — could reach 40 per cent. The preparedness and contingency planning for a pandemic must also take into account the fact that most other service providers — whether public or private — would face similar circumstances. As a result, significant delays and/or interruptions in public services and private businesses might be expected. Host Government public safety and emergency management institutions would likely also be attenuated, because of both increased demand for services and a decreased number of personnel available for duty. In this environment, an institution's arrangements for business continuity gain heightened importance compared with other types of crisis.

5. At the meeting of the steering committee on 1 May 2006, the appointment of a pandemic influenza preparedness coordinator for the United Nations Office at Geneva was recognized, and it was decided to appoint coordinators also for Headquarters and the United Nations Offices at Vienna and Nairobi to undertake similar activities. Accordingly, the Secretary-General created the Office of the New York Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Coordinator shortly thereafter. The Office has been tasked with ensuring the preparedness of the Secretariat and the funds, programmes and liaison offices in New York for a possible pandemic. In Vienna, a pandemic coordinator has not yet been appointed, but pandemic planning and preparedness are being undertaken through the existing inter-agency crisis management mechanisms. In Nairobi, an avian and pandemic influenza focal point and secretariat have been established within the Division of Administrative Services.

6. At the meeting of the Pandemic Senior Emergency Policy Team held on 7 September 2006, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, it was decided that the Under-Secretary-General for Management would, in cooperation with the United Nations System Influenza Coordinator and the Office of the New York Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Coordinator, ensure that all headquarters locations and regional commissions completed preparedness plans and accompanying budgets in the near future. Two overall goals for pandemic contingency planning for the United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions were identified: (a) protecting the health, safety and security of personnel and physical assets; and (b) ensuring the continuation of critical functions and operations.

7. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations established an influenza pandemic preparedness team in October 2006, which is responsible for assisting peacekeeping operations in formulating and testing pandemic preparedness plans. The United Nations System Influenza Coordinator, with the support of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme, established in December 2006 a pandemic influenza contingency support team, which works to ensure that the United Nations system at the country level is able to respond adequately to the non-health-related aspects of a pandemic. In addition, in 2007, the support team and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs began discussing the need for a framework for humanitarian relief providers to be ready to respond during a pandemic.

8. On 11 April 2007, at a meeting of the Pandemic Senior Emergency Policy Team, it was decided that the pandemic plans of all United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions would be validated externally to ensure that the plans and their accompanying budgets were in line with global best practices for pandemic planning. The external validation exercise began in June 2007 and was completed on 10 July. The recommendations of the external validation have been incorporated into the pandemic plans of all headquarters locations and regional commissions.

9. The proposals in the present report are directly aligned with the Secretariat strategy for crisis management and continuity of operations and are structured to complement the comprehensive report on information and communications technology disaster recovery and continuity of operations for the Secretariat to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session. The strategy of the disaster recovery proposal is to establish the requisite technical and operational

capability for sustaining critical information and communications technology systems and applications in the event of a crisis.

10. The present document sets out the specialized requirements for pandemic crisis preparedness, taking into account previous and proposed investments in continuity of operations. Pandemic preparedness measures require specialized business continuity capabilities for telecommuting and remote operations for identified critical personnel. The present report is designed to address these particular requirements; therefore the proposals supplement and build on the foundation proposed in the comprehensive report on disaster recovery and business continuity.

11. The recommendations of the working groups highlighted the need for a number of preparedness activities, which may be grouped into three broad categories: (a) activities needed to maintain the continuity of critical United Nations functions and operations; (b) medical intervention and prevention; and (c) preparatory activities (capacity-building and training). Certain activities are needed at the current planning stage, while others would be required only in the event of a pandemic.

12. For the purposes of the present document, pandemic planning is divided into two parts: resources requested for the biennium 2008-2009 and additional resources required in the event of a pandemic. Because of the uncertainty of when a pandemic could arise, it is prudent to undertake certain activities — among them the procurement of critical equipment and supplies — as soon as possible. This strategy will hasten the achievement of a state of full preparedness for a pandemic and will mitigate the risk that certain items will be in short supply as a pandemic approaches. Keeping stocks of emergency supplies up to date and carrying out regular activities such as training, simulations and maintenance of emergency systems will become part of the regular workplan of the United Nations during the biennium 2008-2009. Certain additional activities would have to be undertaken only in the event of a pandemic, either because they would be required only at that time (such as procurement of certain hardware) or because more exact information on the nature of the pandemic would be required before such activities could be carried out (such as the procurement of a possible pandemic vaccine). Accordingly, the estimated resources for the additional activities that would need to be undertaken in the event of a pandemic are described in the present report but are not requested at this time.

13. It should be noted that resource requirements totalling $5,969,900 to fund the necessary pandemic crisis preparedness activities of the Secretariat in 2007, under sections 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 28A, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G of the programme budget for 2006-2007, are being met through funding arrangements under the discretionary authority granted to the Secretary-General in General Assembly resolution 60/283 and will be reported in the context of the second performance report for the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007. Those resources cover non-post requirements for initial preparedness.

II. Pandemic preparedness at the United Nations in New York

14. While the Secretariat and the funds and programmes in New York each have crisis management plans, those plans set out responses to sudden-onset crises that are of brief duration and that do not directly affect a significant numbers of United Nations personnel.

15. The following critical functions of the United Nations in New York under pandemic conditions were identified: the ability of the principal organs (i.e., the Security Council and the General Assembly) to conduct critical meetings and communicate with other organizations and Governments; the ability of the Secretary-General to represent the Organization, to respond to the needs of the international community, to provide the means for diplomatic discourse and negotiation and to play a global leadership role; the protection of personnel (through, inter alia, medical services and counselling) and physical assets; the ability to make important operational and policy decisions related to the pandemic; the ability to make important operational and policy decisions for critical global and field operations and mandates, including peacekeeping and humanitarian operations; the ability to communicate with other organizations and Governments; the maintenance of utilities, telecommunications and information technology services; and the continuation of critical administrative functions.

16. At the meeting of the Pandemic Senior Emergency Policy Team, held on 7 September 2006, four broad scenarios for pandemic contingency planning were approved for the United Nations system in New York. Those scenarios link to the World Health Organization's phases of a pandemic, which are global in nature, and are applied to the specific local context. The four scenarios are:

- *Scenario A (low impact).* Public life and business in New York City are hardly affected by the pandemic, but there is the risk of rapid transition to a higher-impact scenario. The United Nations would function as usual, but would prepare for transition to another scenario.
- *Scenario B (medium impact).* Public life and business in New York City are somewhat affected by the pandemic, with rising rates of absenteeism and possible temporary disruptions in public services. Schools and day-care centres may close. The United Nations would continue to function, although some non-critical functions would be scaled back. For health and safety reasons, public access to the United Nations complex would be suspended.
- *Scenario C (high impact).* Public life and business in New York City are significantly affected by the pandemic, with significant absenteeism resulting in disruptions to many types of services. In this emergency situation, the United Nations would be officially closed, with only a small number of staff performing critical functions reporting for work. For health and safety reasons, the access of other than critical personnel to the complex would be suspended.
- *Scenario D (high impact with temporary relocation).* Public life and business in New York City are significantly affected by the pandemic. Because of the failure of building services or the absence of critical personnel, the United Nations would temporarily relocate its critical functions to another location. For health and safety reasons, only security and system maintenance personnel would have access to the United Nations complex.

17. The Office of the New York Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Coordinator initiated a comprehensive stock-taking and planning exercise designed to highlight gaps in the existing crisis management plans and to heighten awareness of the need to ensure business continuity. Nine working groups were established in the areas of operational continuity of the General Assembly and the Security Council; human resources administration and data collection; medical planning and services; budgetary and financial processes and requirements; safety and security of personnel and physical assets; critical vendor management; information technology; communication and training; and public communication. The chairs of the working groups and other pertinent staff formed a lead working group, with the Under-Secretary-General for Management as chair and the New York Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Coordinator as vice-chair. The Pandemic Crisis Operations Group and the Pandemic Senior Emergency Policy Team, the key crisis management committees at Headquarters, have provided guidance on and approval of key policies of the New York pandemic plan.

18. The resources requested herein for the United Nations in New York relate for the most part to the Secretariat only (funds, programmes and liaison offices located in New York will cover costs specifically related to their own personnel). However, certain services, such as security, training and medical treatment, are provided by the Secretariat to all United Nations offices in New York and are thus included in the request.

19. Total requirements for the United Nations in New York for 2008-2009 are estimated at $5,951,600, including the resources required for the Business Continuity Management Unit that has been created in the Office of Central Support Services, Department of Management, which has been tasked with the coordination and monitoring of crisis planning and preparedness activities at all locations. In the event of a pandemic, another $8,232,800 would be required in New York (see table 1).

Table 1
United Nations Headquarters
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	5 038.7	7 716.7
Operational continuity (onsite and telecommuting)	3 317.0	1 807.6
Public information (including public website)	138.0	130.1
Administration of personnel	—	5 779.0
Business Continuity Management Unit	1 583.7	—
Medical interventions and prevention	382.6	511.1
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	225.6	458.1
Prevention equipment and activities	157.0	53.0
Preparatory activities	530.3	5.0
Awareness activities (including website)	429.4	5.0
Training	100.9	—
Total	**5 951.6**	**8 232.8**

20. *Business continuity*. Some $5,038,700 would be required for the biennium 2008-2009 for activities needed to maintain business continuity. An estimated additional amount of $7,716,700 would be needed in the event of a pandemic. Business continuity activities include the procurement and adaptation of software to enable the Security Council to meet via teleconference and/or web conference in the event of an emergency. A demonstration of the use of the latter technology was presented to Council members on 2 April 2007. Also included are activities that are required to enable critical United Nations personnel to telecommute and to enable certain critical personnel to continue working in the complex during a crisis. Activities related to keeping the public informed during a pandemic, including statements of the Secretary-General, noon news briefings and pandemic-related material on the United Nations public website are included as well. Additional costs related to the administration of personnel contracts would accrue in the event of a pandemic. Supplies would be procured to enable emergency sheltering of critical personnel on the premises for up to nine days; this provision might be required should local safety conditions make it inadvisable for personnel to leave the complex for a period of time.

21. *Medical interventions and prevention activities*. An amount of $382,600 would be required for the biennium 2008-2009 for activities in this category. An additional $511,100 would be required in the event of a pandemic. These activities are related to protecting the health of United Nations personnel and their dependants during a pandemic by providing appropriate information on prevention and treatment and, if necessary, essential medications and protective equipment. Individuals with an occupational risk of exposure to the pandemic virus would receive specialized protective equipment and training. Initial investments in these activities began in 2006, but many activities — particularly the updating of medical stocks — would require continuing investments in order to maintain a state of preparedness.

22. *Preparatory activities*. Actions needed to provide United Nations personnel with the information required to protect their health and the health of their families during a pandemic would require an estimated $530,300 during the biennium 2008-2009. An additional $5,000 would be required in the event of a pandemic. These awareness activities include lectures and presentations, printed materials, information sessions and a pandemic website for staff. Specialized training would also be provided to United Nations personnel having critical functions during a pandemic.

III. Pandemic preparedness at other United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions

23. The status of pandemic preparedness at other headquarters locations and regional commissions varies. The differences among duty stations are a consequence of several factors. At some locations, such as the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) much of the preparation has already occurred and thus a relatively smaller amount of additional funding would be required. At other locations, such as the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), there is a highly evolved plan, and resources are required to implement the preparedness phases of that plan. At other locations, such as the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), planning is in the early stages, and it is quite possible that all the needs are not yet fully known. The differences also reflect the varying

availability of needed items (e.g., medical supplies). The activities in 2008-2009 at other United Nations headquarters locations and regional commissions and the corresponding resources required for implementation are described below.

United Nations Office at Geneva

24. The United Nations Office at Geneva has formulated a preparedness plan that focuses on business continuity (see table 2). The host Government would provide most medical interventions and carry out prevention activities, and therefore the United Nations plan contains only small resource provisions in this regard. Preparatory activities are being handled separately by each agency, and therefore do not form part of the United Nations Office at Geneva plan. The Economic Commission for Europe participates in the plan.

25. Activities to maintain business continuity would require $172,200 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, an additional $422,200 would be needed. Business continuity activities include upgrading information and communications technology and building maintenance systems to enable telecommuting, providing additional audio and videoconferencing support, which will enable the Security Council, the General Assembly, and other high-level functions to continue (if necessary) and providing for emergency sheltering within the Palais des Nations for up to 100 critical personnel.

Table 2
United Nations Office at Geneva
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	172.2	422.2
Operational continuity (onsite and telecommuting)	140.4	252.8
Emergency sheltering	31.8	169.4
Medical interventions and prevention	—	—
Preparatory activities	—	—
Total	**172.2**	**422.2**

United Nations Office at Vienna

26. At the United Nations Office at Vienna, the host Government would provide medical interventions and carry out prevention activities for United Nations personnel and their families. The plan of the United Nations Office at Vienna, therefore, is focused on maintaining business continuity (see table 3).

27. Activities to maintain business continuity would require $166,300 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, an additional $380,000 would be needed. The primary business continuity need in the plan is to upgrade information technology services in order to enable all 500 personnel to work remotely (only a minimum number of personnel would remain on the premises to ensure the security of the building). This would require an upgrade to the existing remote services hardware and software platform to enable a large number of simultaneous users to

connect and work off site, additional back-up tapes and a larger back-up robot in order to minimize visits to the premises for data security purposes and additional hardware and telecommunications provisions required for certain critical personnel to work off site in the event of a pandemic.

Table 3
United Nations Office at Vienna
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	166.3	380.0
Operational continuity (onsite and telecommuting)	166.3	380.0
Medical interventions and prevention	—	—
Preparatory activities	—	—
Total	**166.3**	**380.0**

United Nations Office at Nairobi

28. The United Nations Office at Nairobi has formulated a preparedness plan that focuses on maintaining business continuity, protecting the health and welfare of its personnel and their dependants through medical interventions and prevention and preparatory activities such as an awareness campaign and training (see table 4). The Office also participates in the United Nations country team plan for Kenya.

29. Activities to maintain business continuity would require $651,900 for the biennium 2008-2009. Included in this category is the work of the avian and pandemic influenza secretariat, which undertakes and coordinates pandemic planning for the Office.

30. Medical interventions and prevention activities would require $147,000 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, $541,400 in additional resources would be required. Activities in this category include keeping up-to-date stocks of antiviral medications, antibiotics and other medical supplies required for prevention and for the treatment of United Nations personnel and their dependants. In addition, individuals with an occupational risk of exposure to the virus would be trained in the use of personal protective equipment to mitigate their risk of exposure. The United Nations Office at Nairobi has identified a need for a small amount of additional support for medical equipment and in-country medical evacuations for emergency medical treatment of its personnel and their dependants during a pandemic.

31. Preparatory activities would require $102,200 for the biennium 2008-2009. These activities include awareness campaigns and information for United Nations Office at Nairobi personnel and their dependants and specialized training for personnel performing critical functions during a pandemic.

Table 4
United Nations Office at Nairobi
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	651.9	—
Operational continuity (on site and telecommuting)	48.3	—
Administration of personnel	603.6	—
Medical interventions and prevention	147.0	541.4
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	147.0	541.4
Preparatory activities	102.2	—
Awareness activities (including website)	10.3	—
Training	91.9	—
Total	**901.1**	**541.4**

Economic Commission for Africa

32. The Economic Commission for Africa is participating in the pandemic preparedness plan of the United Nations country team in Ethiopia. The plan includes all three categories: maintaining business continuity, medical interventions and prevention and preparatory activities such as awareness campaigns and training (see table 5).

33. Activities to maintain business continuity would require $531,900 for the biennium 2008-2009. An additional $36,000 would be required in the event of a pandemic. Activities include the establishment of an avian influenza focal point and medical support for preparatory activities, as well as the purchase of supplies to maintain business continuity.

34. Medical interventions and emergency treatment needs would require $5,100 for the biennium 2008-2009. The country team plan for Ethiopia stipulates that each agency should procure antiviral medications and antibiotics for its personnel and their dependants in the event of a pandemic. ECA is requesting funds to keep those stocks up to date. In addition, ECA has identified the need to procure a small amount of additional equipment for emergency medical treatment of its personnel and their dependants during a pandemic. The requested items are available in the local health-care system, but the supply is too limited to service the number of cases expected during a pandemic.

35. Preparatory activities would require $27,000 for the biennium 2008-2009. Those activities include awareness campaigns for ECA personnel and their dependants, as well as specialized training for personnel performing critical functions during a pandemic.

Table 5
Economic Commission for Africa
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	531.9	36.0
Operational continuity (on site and telecommuting)	531.3	25.4
Emergency communications	0.6	10.6
Medical interventions and prevention	5.1	—
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	5.1	—
Preparatory activities	27.0	—
Awareness activities	27.0	—
Total	**564.0**	**36.0**

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

36. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific is participating in the pandemic preparedness plan of the United Nations country team in Thailand. The plan focuses on medical interventions and prevention, preparatory activities such as awareness campaigns and training, maintaining business continuity and the provision of support to the national response (see table 6).

37. Because Thailand is one of the countries that initiated an early response to the threat of a pandemic, many activities have already been undertaken and funded. In the latest review of the status of its emergency preparedness, ESCAP identified some additional areas for support.

38. In order to maintain business continuity, $233,700 would be required in the event of a pandemic for the administration of personnel contracts and security requirements for its personnel.

Table 6
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	—	233.7
Operational continuity (on site and telecommuting)	—	233.7
Medical interventions and prevention	—	—
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	—	—
Preparatory activities	—	—
Total	**—**	**233.7**

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

39. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia has prepared a pandemic plan that focuses on business continuity, medical interventions and prevention and preparatory activities (see table 7).

40. Medical interventions and prevention activities would require $12,300 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, an additional $2,600 would be required. These activities are related to protecting the health of personnel and their dependants by procuring essential medications and by keeping stocks up to date.

41. Preparatory activities would require $3,000 for the biennium 2008-2009. This category comprises awareness activities for personnel and dependants.

Table 7
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	—	—
Medical interventions and prevention	12.3	2.6
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	12.3	2.6
Preparatory activities	3.0	—
Awareness	3.0	—
Total	**15.3**	**2.6**

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

42. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is participating in the pandemic plan of the United Nations country team in Santiago and will take advantage of many of the joint training, awareness campaigns and other activities organized under that plan. The Commission's own pandemic plan complements the country team plan and focuses its pandemic preparedness plan on business continuity, medical interventions and prevention activities (see table 8).

43. Activities needed to maintain business continuity would require $88,800 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, an additional $90,700 would be required. Those activities are related to improving emergency communications among critical personnel and ensuring that sufficient stocks and supplies are on hand in the event of local shortages.

44. Medical interventions and prevention activities would require $9,300 for the biennium 2008-2009. In the event of a pandemic, an additional $36,800 would be required. These activities are related to protecting the health of personnel and their dependants by maintaining stocks of essential medications and by ensuring access to stress counselling and other psychosocial support.

Table 8
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Estimated resource requirements	
	2008-2009	*In the event of a pandemic*
Maintaining business continuity	88.8	90.7
Operational continuity (on site and telecommuting)	88.8	74.5
Emergency sheltering	—	16.2
Medical interventions and prevention	9.3	36.8
Medical interventions (including stress counselling)	9.3	36.8
Preparatory activities	—	—
Total	**98.1**	**127.5**

IV. Revised estimates by section of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

45. The requirements proposed in the present report would result in revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 as shown in tables 9 and 10.

Table 9
Requirements by budget section for the biennium 2008-2009
(Thousands of United States dollars)

		2008-2009					
			Growth				
		2006-2007 revised appropriation	*Proposed programme budget*[a]	*Present report*	*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2008-2009 estimate*	*Additional requirements in the event of a pandemic*
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	107 404.2	1 806.3	564.0	109 774.5	10 358.3	120 132.8	36.0
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	74 664.8	696.2	—	75 361.0	5 832.9	81 193.9	233.7
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	97 180.1	289.3	98.1	97 567.5	6 043.7	103 611.2	127.5
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	56 324.6	485.3	15.3	56 825.2	2 950.1	59 775.3	2.6
27.	Public information	178 851.8	497.2	138.0	179 487.0	10 561.1	190 048.1	130.1
28C.	Office of Human Resources Management	67 557.4	4 434.8	912.9	72 905.1	4 696.7	77 601.8	6 295.1
28D.	Office of Central Support	245 408.8	2 061.7	4 900.7	252 371.2	17 459.1	269 830.3	1 807.6

	2006-2007 revised appropriation	2008-2009 Growth: Proposed programme budget[a]	2008-2009 Growth: Present report	2008-2009 Growth: Total before recosting	2008-2009 Growth: Recosting	2008-2009 estimate	Additional requirements in the event of a pandemic
Services							
28E. Administration, Geneva	107 192.8	186.1	172.2	107 551.1	3 483.6	111 034.7	422.2
28F. Administration, Vienna	35 297.4	(181.3)	166.3	35 282.4	1 443.9	36 726.3	380.0
28G. Administration, Nairobi	19 645.2	4 296.1	901.1	24 842.4	3 274.4	28 116.8	541.4
Total	**989 527.1**	**14 571.7**	**7 868.6**	**1 011 967.4**	**66 103.8**	**1 078 071.2**	**9 976.2**

[a] Growth in the proposed programme budget does not relate to avian influenza pandemic preparedness.

Table 10

Requirements by object of expenditure for the biennium 2008-2009[a]

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2006-2007 revised appropriation	Growth: Proposed programme budget[b]	Growth: Present report	Total before recosting	Recosting	2008-2009 estimate	Additional requirements in the event of a pandemic
Posts	638 191.8	10 252.3	—	648 444.1	40 324.3	688 768.4	—
Other staff costs	19 000.2	1 175.6	3 148.6	23 324.4	1 717.5	28 190.5	6 525.6
Consultants and experts	6 868.3	(360.2)	3.0	6 511.1	693.2	7 207.3	—
Travel of representatives	715.5	40.7	—	756.2	49.2	805.4	—
Travel of staff	7 821.3	358.7	40.0	8 220.0	534.3	8 794.3	—
Contractual services	75 243.4	7 288.8	1 960.3	84 492.5	5 917.6	92 370.4	390.9
General operating expenses	184 956.0	4 103.7	1 888.6	190 948.3	13 720.6	206 557.5	1 358.3
Hospitality	278.1	(14.0)	—	264.1	20.1	284.2	—
Supplies and materials	14 481.7	(935.8)	693.3	14 239.2	1 123.2	16 055.7	1 510.1
Furniture and equipment	23 861.0	(5 760.1)	134.8	18 235.7	1 429.2	19 799.7	191.3
Grants and contributions	18 109.8	(1 578.0)	—	16 531.8	574.6	17 106.4	—
Total	**989 527.1**	**14 571.7**	**7 868.6**	**1 011 967.4**	**66 103.8**	**1 078 071.2**	**9 976.2**

[a] Requirements relate to sections 17, 18, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G of the proposed programme budget for 2008-2009.

[b] Growth in the proposed programme budget does not relate to avian influenza pandemic preparedness.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

46. The overall resource requirements under the regular budget arising from the implementation of the proposals contained in the present report are estimated at $7,868,600.

47. **The General Assembly is requested to:**

(a) Approve the estimated amount of $7,868,600 requested for the biennium 2008-2009, comprising $564,000 under section 17, Economic and social development in Africa; $98,100 under section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean; $15,300 under section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia; $138,000 under section 27, Public information; $912,900 under section 28C, Office of Human Resources Management; $4,900,700 under section 28D, Office of Central Support Services; $172,200 under section 28E, Administration, Geneva; $166,300 under section 28F, Administration, Vienna; and $901,100 under section 28G, Administration, Nairobi; this provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would need to be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of potential charges to the contingency fund to be presented towards the end of the main part of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly;

(b) Note that in the event of a pandemic, the preliminary indicative level of $9,976,200 would be required in addition to the resources requested in the present report.